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Marlborough Borough.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1942

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my 23rd Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Administration of your district.

This report is brief and is according to instructions reseived from the Ministry of Health in their cirular 2773 dated March 10th, 1943.

I have the hono r to remain,

Your obedient servant,

A. H. WILSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

18 Victoria Road, Salisbury.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population—Census 1931 : 3,492.
Population—Estimated Mid. 1942—5,610
Area, 1,496 Acres
Rateable Value : £37,179
Sum represented by Penny Rate : £147 3 3
Number of Inhabited Houses as shown by Rate Books end of 1942: 1,305.

Births, 1942.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
Live	42	36	78	(3 Illegitimate)
Still	0	0	0	(0 Illegitimate)

Birth Rate, 1942.		England and Wales	
Live	13.9	Live	15.8
Still	0.	Still	0.54

Birth Rate Average last 10 years 12.3
England and Wales ,, ,, 10 ,, 14.8
Deaths : Males, 30. Females 35. Total, 65.

Death Rate (1942) 11.4 Average last 10 years 11.0
England and Wales ,, 11.6 ,, ,, 10 ,, 12.2

Number of deaths of infants under one year of age : Males 3 Females 2. Total, 5. (1 illegitimate).
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births) 64.1
England and Wales 49.0
Infantile Mortality Average last 10 years 40.2
England and Wales ,, ,, 10 ,, 56.3

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease.	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total deaths.
Scarlet Fever ...	16	16	0
Diphtheria ...	1	1	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	0
Pneumonia ...	11	6	1
Erysipelas ...	4	3	0
Measles	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	4	0	0

Scarlet Fever. Sixteen cases were notified and they arose one or two at a time all through the year and in only one case was it possible to associate any one case with another.

Diphtheria. Only one case was sent to Hospital as a doubtful case and this proved not to be the disease, so the Town remained free from diphtheria during the whole year. As a matter of fact except for two cases in May 1941, the last case to be notified in the Town was in Dec., 1940.

Puerperal Pyrexia. One case was notified at the end of the year and was treated in Hospital and recovered.

Pneumonia. Eleven cases were notified during the year and six of these were treated in Hospital, only one of them died. The Registrar General gives two females and two males as dying from this disease, but one case was not notified to me and two others were Bronchopneumonia which is not notifiable.

Measles and Whooping Cough. No measles and only four cases of whooping cough were notified.

Erysipelas. Four cases were notified and all recovered.

Tuberculosis. The following five cases were notified :—

Female Pulmonary	1 between 55—65
Female Non-Pulm,	1 between 0— 5
Male Non-Pulm,	1 between 5—10
	1 between 10—15
	1 between 45—55

The one female Pulmonary case age 60 died during the year. This was the only death.

Immunisation Against Diphtheria. This campaign still goes on, and during 1942, 74 children under 5 and 14 between 5 and 15 were immunised. As a rough estimate on December 31st, 1942, 25.8% of the children under 5 and 71% between 5 and 15 had been immunised in the Town, but as the population has varied so much it is impossible to say exactly how accurate these figures are, nevertheless the immunisation still goes on.

Water Supply.

There has been no alteration in the supply to the Town.

A supply is provided to a Military Camp at Salisbury Hill. This supply is taken from the reservoir through a meter and pumped by the Military to serve several units encamped in the Savernake Forest.

It has also been agreed to provide a supply for the new Military Camp on the Common and in this connection the Ministry of Works are installing boosters and carrying out other works to enable such supply to be provided.

During the year the private supply to Marlborough College became polluted and the College Authorities approached your Council with a view to taking a permanent supply from the town mains. This was eventually agreed to.

Drainage and Sewerage.

A serious condition of affairs arose during the year through the Military at Salisbury Hill depositing camp sewage into a chalk pit in close proximity to your well. After urgent representations were made to the War Office and the Ministry of Health a camp drainage system was installed which conveyed the offending matter further into the forest away from the well.

The chlorination Plant installed at the Sewage Disposal Works early in the year is working very satisfactorily.

River and Streams.

The section of the River Kennet for which the Council is responsible was thoroughly cleaned out and weeded during the year, and no nuisance was caused.

Public Cleansing.

House refuse was collected once weekly by motor vehicle.

Paper, metal, bones and other salvageable materials were collected and disposed of in accordance with the requirements of the Government Scheme.

Swimming Bath.

Water is pumped from the river into the bath and is frequently changed, in addition the water is chlorinated by means of the addition of " Chloros " and the amount of free chlorine tested daily by means of the Orthotolidine Test.

Milk Supply.

The milk supply of the town remains satisfactory.

Three of the five producers have " Accredited " licences and samples were taken regularly by the County Council Inspectors to see that the required standard was maintained.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

	No. of Inspections.	No. of Defects.	Informal Notices.	Statutory Notices.	Remedied by 3.	Remedied by 4.	Remedied after verbal instructions only.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Nuisances ...	150	25	16	1	10	—	6
Slaughter-houses ...	12	2	—	—	—	—	2
Knackers' Yards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Places where food is prepared ...	29	2	1	—	1	—	1
Cowsheds ... Dairies and Milkstores	19	4	1	—	1	—	3
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bakehouses	10	2	—	—	—	—	2
Butcher's Shops ...	31	3	—	—	—	—	3
Totals	251	38	18	1	12	—	17

Milk and Dairies, etc.

Number of Wholesale Producers registered (1942)	6
,, Retail Purveyors registered (1942)	12
,, Certificates issued (Producers) during 1942	—
,, ,, ,, (Retailers) ,, ,, ...	—
Approximate number of Cows	115

Meat and Other Foods.

The Ministry of Food Scheme continued to operate throughout the year. The total number of condemnations was 532, 51 of which were in respect of entire carcases.

The total meat condemned was 10 tons, 15 cwt., as compared with 14 tons, 12 cwts., 2 qrs., last year.

There is also a total of 5½ cwts. of other foodstuffs mainly tinned foods which were condemned during the year.

The local slaughterhouse officials continue to show courtesy and co-operation as in the past, thus assisting the work of inspection.

Notices received of regular slaughter	1
,, ,, ,, casual ,, ...	7
Number of Condemnations	532

TOTAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

Causes of Death.	M.	F.
All Causes	30	35
Typhoid and Paratyphoid		
Cerebrospinal Fever ..		
Scarlet Fever .. .		
Whooping Cough ..		
Diphtheria		
Tuberc. of Respir. syst. ..		1
Other form of Tuberc.		
Syphilitic Diseases ..	1	
Influenza		
Measles		
Ac. Polio-myelitis and Enceph.		
Ac. Inf. Enceph.		
Cancer of b. cav; and oesoph (M.) uterus (F)	2	1
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	2	
Cancer of breast ..		
Cancer of all other sites ..	4	2
Diabetes		
Intra. cran. vasc. lesions	1	6
Heart disease	6	6
Other dis. of circ. syst. ..	3	4
Bronchitis	4	2
Pneumonia	2	2
Other Resp. diseases ..		
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum		
Diarrhœa under two years		1

Causes of Death.	M.	F.
Appendicitis		1
Other digest. diseases ..	1	
Nephritis	1	
Puerp. and postabort. sepsis		
Other maternal causes ..		
Premature birth		
Cong. malf. birth inj. Inf. dis.	2	
Suicide		
Road Traffic Act		1
Other violent causes ..		
All other causes ..	1	6
Deaths of Infants under 1 year—		
Total	3	2
Legitimate	3	1
Illegitimate		1
Live Births		
Total	42	36
Legitimate	40	35
Illegitimate	2	1
Stillbirths		
Total		0
Legitimate		0
Illegitimate		0
Population	5,610	